

**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
INITIAL POLLUTION REPORT**

**DATE:** October 29, 2003

**SUBJECT:** Douglas Asphalt Company Diesel Spill  
186 Pitts Chapel Road  
Gray, (Jones County) Georgia

**FROM:** Carter Williamson, OSC  
US-EPA Region 4

**TO:** S. Hitchcock, EPA  
Don Rigger, EPA  
Region 4, RRC

**I. BACKGROUND**

FPN#	None
Site ID:	None
LEAD AGENCIES:	EPA, Region 4, ERRB 61 Forsyth Street, SW Atlanta, Georgia 30303
	Dept. of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division Emergency Response Team 7 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive Atlanta, Georgia 30334
NPL:	No
FUNDING:	OPA
LEAD OSC:	Carter Williamson

**II SITUATION**

Date of Notification:	23 October 2003
Date Action Started:	23 October 2003
Pollutant:	No. 2 Diesel fuel
Quantity Discharged:	Approximately 9,200 gallons of No. 2 diesel fuel.
Source Identification:	Employee error filling tank (capacity 10,000 gal.)

### **III                    ACTIONS TAKEN**

On October 23, 2003, while responding to a gasoline tanker spill (see Pleasantdale Road response), OSC Carter Williamson was apprized by Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GAEPD) response staff that a diesel spill had occurred and been reported to their regional office in Macon, Georgia. Apparently, the spill had occurred several days before but through various reasons had not been reported to the state emergency management agencies nor the National Response Center. In coordination with the GAEPD, OSC Williamson traveled to Gray, Georgia and arrived at the site of the spill at 1300. Upon arrival, OSC Williamson met with the environmental contractors Statewide and First Environmental who had been hired by Douglas Asphalt to recover the product and perform clean-up of the affected drainage areas, pond and soils/vegetation. According to the contractors, an employee, as part of his daily routine, had begun fueling a 300 gallon saddle tank mounted to an asphalt tank from a 10,000 gallon number 2 diesel tank. The employee then became distracted and left the premises, leaving the tank to gravity feed the entire contents of the 10,000 tank onto the facility grounds.

The spilled material moved off-site from the tank battery to a drainage ditch on the property and from there moved through a bog area, into a pond owned by APAC Asphalt and into a secondary bog area across Pitts Chapel Road. Upon arrival at the scene, OSC Williamson was informed that both environmental contractors had been on-site for 36 hours recovering free product using vac trucks, absorbent pads and boom and manual excavation/soil recovery. In touring the affected area, it was noted that a great deal of the product had been recovered with sporadic pockets of raw product still present in eddies, pools and vegetation. All soil debris was being moved to an area owned by Douglas Asphalt and placed on liners and covered for future remediation. GAEPD had conferred with the RP and had tentatively approved an on-site treatment process for the affected soils.

OSC Williamson spent the entirety of October 23, 2003 overseeing clean-up and recovery operations and directing the contractors to berm and seal off sensitive areas with hard and absorbent boom. OSC Williamson also directed the contractors to remedy the containment area surrounding the 10,000 gallon diesel tank and the 300 gallon saddle tank attached to the asphalt hopper. On October 24, 2003, OSC Williamson returned to oversee the recovery operations and to conduct a Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure Inspection (SPCC) at Douglas Asphalt and at the neighboring asphalt company, APAC. Douglas Asphalt did not have a SPCC plan on-site or any information as to employee training with respect to emergencies. The contractor Jeff Register, Project Manager for Statewide, who is also the prime environmental consultant for Douglas Asphalt, assured the OSC that a SPCC plan did in fact exist and that one would be sent to the facility as well as to the EPA Region 4 office for review. OSC Williamson also directed the contractor to address the deficiencies in training at the facility and to provide a letter to the Agency detailing what steps would be taken to remedy and help prevent future mishaps. Douglas Asphalt personnel were not present during any of the recovery operation while the OSC was on-site.

No major tributaries were affected during this uncontrolled release, however, a small ditch, also called Slash Creek did receive a majority of the product which allowed it to move into the APAC pond and subsequently, into a bog adjacent to Pitts Chapel Road.

#### **IV FUTURE ACTIONS**

OSC Williamson continues to monitor the recovery operation through phone conversations with the environmental contractors and the GAEPD regional office that is providing local oversight. OSC Williamson will notify the EPA Criminal Investigation Division of the event and will turn over all SPCC related information to the appropriate EPA Oil Enforcement staff. OSC Williamson intends to travel to the site with OSC Ted Walden to give direction to Douglas Asphalt on future containment options and SPCC regulations.

#### **V ESTIMATED COSTS**

EPA	\$500
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